(b) As per information received from State Government 38,466 persons have been made literate during the period.

(c) The goal of National Literacy Mission is to attain full literacy *i.e.* a sustainable threshold level of 75% by 2005. As per census 2001 (Provisional) the literacy rate of Arunachal Pradesh is 54.74%.

Acceptance/Rejection of Baldev Mahajan Committee Recommendations

*135. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Baldev Mahajan Committee's recommendations, accepted by the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in 2000, were rejected in 2001, without even implementing the same; and

(b) if so, the details and the rationale of such decision of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Baldev Mahajan Committee necessitated a flexible budget for KVS and it was a prerequisite for the implementation of these recommendations. Govt. did not agree with this recommendation. It was therefore decided by the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan not to implement the recommendations of the Baldev Mahajan Committee.

Education Officers without B.Ed. Degree in KVS

*136. SHRI ABDUL GAIYUR QURESHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many such Education Officers in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan who had not secured the B.Ed, degree, before their appointment to the post;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons and justification of their selection, without an

essential qualification for this post?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Four out of existing Education Officers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan do not possess the B.Ed. Degree since the Recruitment Rules at the time of their selection did not stipulate B.Ed, as a mandatory qualification for recruitment of Education Officers in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

Import of Pulses

*137. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pulses imported by India in 2000-2001; and

(b) what was the reason for the imports, despite huge domestic production of pulses and peas?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The import of pulses in 2000-2001 was 3.48 lakh tonnes.

(b) The import of pulses is under Open General License (OGL). The production of pulses during 2000-2001 was lower due to drought in most of the major pulse producing States. There was a gap between demand and domestic supply as a result of which imports took place during the year 2000-2001.

Stray wild animals

*138. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM:

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of leopards, tigers and lions, having strayed from forests into human habitations or fields, were killed by villagers in Assam, Maharashtra and other States during 1998-99, 1999-2000,